Malnutrition among children

2858. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:
SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the problem of malnutrition among children in India is twice as wide-spread as it is in the countries of sub-Saharan Africa;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether even a state like Kerala has an incidence of acute to moderate malnutrition among children that is worse than what one finds in the countries of the sub-Saharan region;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) which state is ahead than others as regards child nutrition and primary education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) A report published by the World Bank indicate higher direct effects but lower indirect effects of malnutrition in India in comparison to sub-Saharan Africa.

(b) The main reasons for incidence of malnutrition among children are high population growth, low per capita income and high incidence of anaemia in women of child bearing age.

(c) to (e) Comparative data are not available.

News regarding family planning among Muslim community

2859. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Moral Family Crusader among the Muslims" which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 5th February, 1994;

(b) if so, what are the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to educate and motivate the Muslim Population to adopt family planning programme to check the rise in population of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri Sheikh Vazir Patel has been doing work for family planning through Young Muslim Association based in Amaravati, Maharashtra.

(c) Institutions like Yound Muslim Association are given grants-in-aid under the Health Post Scheme to improve the acceptance of Family Planning. Informaton, education and communication are also used to motivate for the acceptance of the small family norm.

Urea contents in the milk

2860. SHRI SATISH PARADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Urea is being used in water adulterated milk to avoid detection;

(b) if the urea is consumed what are its effects on human health; and

(c) whether Government have any equipment to detect urea adulteration in the milk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) No such specific case has come to the notice om the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.